

CROPLAND

Alternative Conservation Systems For Erosion Control  
On Highly Erodible Land (HEL)  
To Meet Requirements of 1985 Food Security Act 1/

GUIDE SHEET

LAND CLASS	Potomac Valley SCD	Other SCD's <sup>2/ 3/</sup>
II-e	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage methods and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of <u>.30 or less</u> . Examples: Continuous corn, residue left, conventional tillage <u>OR</u> continuous silage corn, contoured conventional tillage.	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage method and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of <u>.24 or less</u> . Examples: Continuous silage corn, winter cover, no tillage <u>OR</u> continuous corn, residue left, contoured, conventional tillage.
III-e	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage methods and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of <u>.15 or less</u> . Examples: silage corn/WC; silage corn/WC; three year hay, conventional tillage <u>OR</u> 2 years silage corn, 4 years hay, conventional tillage.	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage method and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of <u>.12 or less</u> . Examples: continuous corn with residue left with conservation tillage <u>OR</u> 2 years silage corn 6 years hay, conventional tillage.
IV-e	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage methods and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of <u>.06 or less</u> . Examples: continuous corn, residue left, no till with 70% cover after planting <u>OR</u> 2 years silage corn, 4 years hay, contour stripcrop, conventional tillage.	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage method and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of <u>.045</u> . Examples: silage corn, winter cover, 5 year hay conventional tillage <u>OR</u> 4 years silage corn, winter cover, 4 years hay, all no-tillage including hay establishment.

West Virginia  
July 1988

Technical Guide  
Section III-A-2

CROPLAND

Alternative Conservation Systems For Erosion Control  
On Highly Erodible Land (HEL)  
To Meet Requirements of 1985 Food Security Act 1/

GUIDE SHEET

LAND CLASS	Potomac Valley SCD	Other SCD's <u>2/</u> <u>3/</u>	
VI-e	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage methods and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of .027 or less. Examples: corn Rdl, 8 year hay, conventional tillage <u>OR</u> 2 yrs corn silage, winter cover, 6 years hay, all no-tillage including hay establishment.	Any combination of cropping sequence, tillage method and conservation practices that produce a "C" x "P" value of .024 or less. Examples: corn Rdl, no-tillage, 6 years hay conventional tillage <u>OR</u> 2 yrs. corn silage, winter cover, 6 years hay, all no-tillage including hay establishment.	

1/ Other site specific practices that meet erosion minimum quality criteria (Section III-A, Page 2) may be used for water erosion control. In all cases concentrated water flow must be treated with appropriate practices to substantially reduce erosion. Vegetative practices will be used whenever possible.

2/ The Northern Panhandle SCD may use the following additional alternative conservation system (ACS). These are primarily Westmoreland landscapes but not necessarily limited to Westmoreland soil:

	ACS #1 Land Class IV-e & Below	ACS #2 (All Land Classes)	ACS #3
Cropping Rotation	Two years corn (corn or silage); four years meadow	Four years corn silage; four years alfalfa or meadow	Any other cropping, tillage and practice combination that has a "CP" or "C" value equal to or less for given land class in ACS #1 & #2. Concentrated water flow treated with grassed waterways or other structures.
Cover Crops	winter cover after silage corn	winter cover after silage corn	
Tillage	Spring plowing for corn crop. Cultivation is acceptable, provided the corn has a minimum surface residue coverage of 30 percent after planting	conservation tillage system of no-till.	
Contour Stripcropping	Yes	Yes	
Concentrated Water Flow Erosion	Leave grassed waterways in natural condition.	Leave grassed waterways in natural condition	

3/ Burley Tobacco

The production of tobacco on West Virginia farms is on small fields usually with permanent cover above and below. Due to the nature of fields planted to tobacco, there is difficulty in working out all the fine points of complete Resource Management Systems (RMS) or conservation systems for erosion control.

Because there will be little if any off site damage from these fields and there will not be a significant degradation of the resource base, the following alternative is approved as meeting the minimum requirements of the 1985 Food Security Act (FSA) for the "Erosion Control" category of resource concerns:

1. Field size is 3 acres or less
2. Producer plans to:
  - a. Use cover crop (340)
  - b. Perform tillage operations across slope

Producer should also be given the alternative for a complete RMS in the planning process.

CROPLAND  
ALTERNATIVE CONSERVATION SYSTEM (CONT.)

The Western Soil Conservation District may use the following alternative conservation system (ACS) for corn silage fields less than 5 acres in size on land capability class III-e and IV-e:

CROP ROTATION	Corn Silage - 4 yrs. Alfalfa/Meadow - 4 yrs.
COVER CROP	Winter Cover Crop After Silage Corn
TILLAGE	Across Slope, Spring Plow
FILTER STRIP	Minimum of a 20' Wide Strip of Grass Along the Downslope Side of the Field
CONCENTRATED WATER FLOW	Leave Natural Drainageway in Grass

West Virginia  
September 1991

Technical Guide  
Section III-A-2

## CROPLAND

### ALTERNATIVE CONSERVATION SYSTEM (CONT.)

The Greenbrier Valley Soil Conservation District may use the following Alternative Conservation System (ACS) for crop fields less than 5 acres in size on land capability class III-e and IV-e:

CROP ROTATION	Corn (harvested for grain) Oats (followed by cover crop)
RESIDUE USE	Corn stubble will remain at no less than 30% cover
COVER CROP	Small grain or annual grass will be planted after oats are harvested
TILLAGE	Spring plow following contour Minimum tillage for small grain establishment
FILTER STRIP	Minimum of 20' grass strip will be maintained between crop field and water sources and on downslope side of field

CROPLAND (VEGETABLES)

ALTERNATIVE CONSERVATION SYSTEM (CONT.)

The following Alternative Conservation System (ACS) may be used in West Virginia for vegetable producers' fields 3 acres or less in size:

CROP ROTATION

Vegetables followed by cover crop

COVER CROP

Annual grass or grain will be planted within 14 days after vegetables are harvested.

TILLAGE

Spring plow across slope

FILTER STRIP

Minimum of a 20' grass strip will be maintained between crop field and water sources and on downslope side of field.

The producer should also be given the alternative for a complete RMS during the planning process.